4.

11/17/72 Jim, Our financial condition has deteriorated to the point where It must limit what I can even consider doing now. If we paid the stacked bills with what we have, some would be unpaid and we'd be penniless. I will be in DC Monday and Friday for dental appointments. I have lined up a full day of work on our damage suit for Friday. If I do not hear from you by the time I finish with the dentist, there is other work I can and will do on this and I will have to improvise some borrowing. If I can't do that Monday, I'll have to Friday. If we have to go into Frederick tomorrow, I'll get the rifle for Bud, for the pay for it is now all we can expect until after the first of the year, when Lil's income will not be enough to meet what we will have to pay the bank in January. There are other crisis-type things with which I'll have to contend. The latest on David Outerbridge is represented in the enclosed carbon. Although I do not anticipate any need to see Bud in the immediate future, should he find one I think it would be better to avoid it, for just seeing him in this context would remind me too much of some of the wretched things he has said and done with regard to money. The enclosed carbon of my today's letter to John is self-explanatory. Especially in the Baton Rouge context is this setting him up. I will send a carbon to Jerry when I have to write to him again.